

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 060132

43

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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P R 181409Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

USDEL MC

NAVPGSCOL MONTEREY CAL

COMTWELVE SAN FRAN CAL

CG 7TH INF DIV FORT ORD CALIF

CG USFORSCOM FT MCPHERSON GA

CG USATRDADOC FT MONROE VA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 060132

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJECT: NPG - DELEGATION SIZE

REF: USNATO 1198

1. IN RECOGNITION OF THE FACT THAT THE NPG CHARTER
HAS SOUGHT TO PROMOTE FRANK AND INITMATE DISCUSSIONS AMONG
MINISTERS OF DEFENSE, THE US HAS SOUGHT TO PRESERVE THIS
ATMOSPHERE OF INITMATE EXCHANGE BY LIMITING ATTENDANCE AT NPG
AND NDAC MEETINGS. IN SO DOING, THE US HAS SOUGHT
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PAGE 02 STATE 060132

TO BE CONSISTENT AND REQUESTED NO EXCEPTIONS FOR OUR OWN

CONVENIENCE. MISSION MAY RECALL THAT IN MAY 1969 AT THE LONDON NPG MINISTERIAL WITH INCUMBENT AND PROSPECTIVE US AMBASSADORS TO NATO PRESENT, THE US CONTINUED TO URGE ADHERENCE TO RESTRICTING PARTICIPATION TO FIVE MEMBERS FROM EACH DELEGATION IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

2. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THE TRADITIONAL COURSE IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE. THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENT FOR ONE OF THE FIVE MEMBER CONFERENCE ROOM GROUP TO SERVE AS NATIONAL NOTETAKER CONTINUES TO APPEAR ADEQUATE. WHILE WE APPRECIATE AND RESPECT THE BELGIAN CONCERN FOR IMPROVED "REPORTING AND STAFFING" THE EXISTING PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN DEMONSTRATED TO QUITE COMPATIBLE WITH HIGH QUALITY REPORTING. NATIONAL DELEGATIONS MAY ADDITIONALLY RELY ON THE SERVICES OF THE IS WHICH ALSO TAKES OFFICIAL NOTES AT THE MEETINGS TO SUPPLEMENT INDIVIDUAL RECORDS.

3. EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RESOLVE PROBLEM WITHOUT PERMREPS DISCUSSION UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION SHOULD MAKE POINTS IN PARA 2 ABOVE BILATERALLY WITH BELGIAN DELEGATION AND DETERMINE WHETHER BELGIANS PLAN TO PURSUE MATTER FURTHER.

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